

The “Recent Advances in Conservation Genetics” course is only a few short months away so the committee wanted to share some information that will be of interest to you.

### **Yellow Fever Vaccinations – A real requirement**

Effective October 1, 2008, everyone entering Panama will be required to have the Yellow Fever vaccination. All travelers entering the country must show a vaccination certificate. Failure to present this document will result in returning to the country that you came from on the airline that carried you to Panama. Please click on the following link for more details.

<http://www.panama-guide.com/article.php?story=20080927130447330&query=vaccinations>

### **Classes (agenda attached)/ Housing / Flight Information**

Classes will begin on the evening of Sunday, January 18, 2009, beginning promptly at 7:30 p.m. with the opening introduction presented by Dr. Stephen O’Brien, course director, followed by student presentations. **(Refer to Student Participant Section)** We are encouraging everyone to arrive early on January 18, 2009, to allow ample time for student registration.

Housing accommodations for early arrivals can be arranged through the congen committee for a minimal fee. Early notice for housing requests are strongly recommended. ([congen@ncifcrf.gov](mailto:congen@ncifcrf.gov))

During the course student housing does include a washer and dryer, as well as a fully equipped kitchen.

Additionally, please visit our website at <http://home.ncifcrf.gov/ccr/lgd/congen2009/index.asp> and logon using the following unique username and password and complete the pre-registration form. (letters are case sensitive) This information will help us with arranging ground transportation to and from the airport and menu selections based on individual preferences.

Username:

Password:

## **Arriving at STRI**

Upon your arrival at the Panama City Airport ground transportation to and from STRI will be provided courtesy of our hosts at Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.

## **Items to Bring**

- Slides/overheads/powerpoint file for your presentation (3-5 minute limit)
- Reprints of your articles to share with your classmates
- A poster of your work that can be displayed during the course
- Data (**Refer to Data Analysis Section**)

*Optional:*

- Umbrella / rain jacket
- Flashlight
- Large insulated coffee mug if you require frequent caffeine intake
- Bath / shower soap (linens provided)
- Sunscreen
- Ample room in your suitcase to carry home your briefing books/materials

## **Data Analysis**

Computers will be available for each participant. If you have data you want to analyze with some of the population genetics/phylogenetics programs being used, bring it on a memory stick, zip disk, CD, in text or Excel, or a program format. (Data can be raw sequence files, multiple sequence files, microsatellite genotypes, mitochondrial DNA haplotypes, etc.) If you have any questions about data or formatting contact Bailey Kessing at [kessingb@ncifcrf.gov](mailto:kessingb@ncifcrf.gov)).

## **Student Participant Talks**

Randomly selected student talks (15) will begin on Sunday, January 18, 2009, limited to 3 – 5 minutes each. A/V equipment will be available for powerpoint presentations.

## **Telephone Calls:**

If using the facility's telephones, out-going long distance calls must be collect, credit card, or telephone card.

## **STRI Contact Information:**

Meylin Hernandez Ying, Visitors Services Office

work (507) 212-8256  
mobile (507) 6616-9491  
work fax (507) 212-8280  
main (703) 487-3770

work [HernandezM@si.edu](mailto:HernandezM@si.edu)  
work [visitstri@tivoli.si.edu](mailto:visitstri@tivoli.si.edu)  
work [www.stri.org](http://www.stri.org)

## **Emergency Contact Information**

**Bailey Kessing**, course coordinator's cell phone: 1-240-409-7247 (emergencies only)

## **Email Access**

You will have unlimited access to the internet. We suggest that you set-up a web-based email account (e.g., Hotmail, Yahoo, etc) if you do not have an account from which you can access other email accounts. For other email options, Bailey Kessing will be available to assist with set-up.

## **Payment Information**

Please be reminded that tuition fees are due on / or before December 1, 2008.

Full refunds for course cancellations will be honored until December 15, 2008. We reserve the right to retain (US) \$500.00 for course cancellations after December 15, 2008.

Make all checks payable to: **Conservation Genetics**

Mail Checks to: **Dr. Stephen O'Brien**  
**Laboratory of Genomic Diversity**  
**National Cancer Institute, Bldg. 560, Room 21-105**  
**Frederick, Maryland 21802-1201**

**Routing Number: 055003308**  
**Acct Number: 0005155147654**  
**Swift Code: BRBTUS33**  
**Bank Address: 1602 Rosemont Ave, Frederick, MD 21702**  
**Acct. Holder: Stephen O'Brien, Conservations Genetics**  
**4201 Baker Valley Road, Frederick, MD 21704**